

## Problem Set 1 (The Decalogue Part 1) — Due Tuesday, April 4

In a paragraph, answer two of the following four questions.

1. What does the ink spill represent?
2. Analyze the character of the boy as a symbol. What does he represent?
3. The writers organized each film in The Decalogue around one or more of the Ten Commandments. Which commandments are central to the film we saw, the first installment of The Decalogue?
4. Discuss the implications of the father's effort to corroborate, by walking out onto the ice, the computer-assisted calculations he had made of the safety of the ice.

In a page, answer one of the following questions.

1. Why did Earl and Phil assign this movie? In other words, explain how this film touches on the core concerns of this course — namely ethics and technology.
2. Where do the characters fall on Barbour's continuum of views of technology? Justify your choices.
3. Analyze the computer as a symbol. How did the characters interact with it? What was the significance of
  - (a) the computer being on when neither the boy nor his father could remember having turned it on?
  - (b) the father calling the computer his colleague?
  - (c) the closing scene in which the father stares at the "I am ready" prompt?